

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A computer module, said module comprising:.
 2 an enclosure, said enclosure being insertable into a console;
 3 a central processing unit in said enclosure, said central processing unit
 4 comprising a microprocessor based integrated circuit chip;
 5 a hard disk drive in said enclosure, said hard disk drive being coupled to said
 6 central processing unit; and
 7 a programmable memory device in said enclosure, said programmable memory
 8 device being configurable to store a password for preventing a possibility of unauthorized use of
 9 said hard disk drive.

1 2. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface
 2 controller for providing a status of a locking device in said enclosure.

1 3. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a mechanical
 2 locking device that is coupled to said programmable memory device.

1 4. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface
 2 controller coupled to a mechanical locking device, said host interface controller being coupled
 3 to said programmable memory device.

1 5. The computer module of claim 1 wherein said programmable memory
 2 device comprises a flash memory device.

1 6. The computer module of claim 1 wherein said programmable memory
 2 device comprises a flash memory device having at least 8 Mbits of cells and greater.

1 7. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a security program
 2 in a main memory.

1 8. The computer module of claim 7 wherein said security program
 2 comprises a code for storing a password on said programmable memory device.

1 9. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface
 2 controller coupled to a solenoid that drives a mechanical lock in a first position to a second
 3 position.

1 21. The method of claim 14 further comprising identifying a permanent
2 password or user code on said attached computer module.

1 22. The method of claim 21 wherein said permanent password or user code is
2 stored in said microprocessor unit.

1 23. The method of claim 21 wherein said permanent password or user code is
2 stored in a flash memory device coupled to said microprocessor unit.

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